

**Clean-up**

Scout organizes project for Eagle rank.

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# Fort Riley Post

**Just for fun**

Middle school students, faculty combine talents, energy for annual basketball game.

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Friday, March 24, 2006

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 49, No. 12

**Around the Army****Fort Knox:**

The Turret reported March 16 that Fort Knox, Ky., family housing residents would be receiving a Headquarters, Department of Army Resident Assessment Survey within two weeks.

The purpose of this survey is to let residents tell us how well the Residential Community Initiative contractor is meeting on-post housing needs. RCI officials said the information would be used as a guide in providing future improvements to housing facilities and services.

For more on this story and other Fort Knox news, visit [www.thewarriorcenter.com/turret/](http://www.thewarriorcenter.com/turret/) on the Web.

**Grafenwoehr:**

The Bavarian News reported that more than 35 Equal Opportunity advisors and division EO managers met in Heidelberg, Germany, Feb. 10 to discuss the future focus of the U.S. Army Europe Equal Opportunity Program.

One advisor said the group looked at the program's transformation and reconfiguration, as well as how to improve the way advisors train, report and handle issues in USAREUR.

For more on this story and other Grafenwoehr, Germany, news, visit [www.grafenwoehr.army.mil/sites/news/bn\\_online.asp](http://www.grafenwoehr.army.mil/sites/news/bn_online.asp) on the Web.

**Fort Sill:**

The Cannoneer reported March 16 that Soldiers wanting to buy or rent a home off-post have an advocate who can help them wade through the red tape, unanswered questions and legal jargon that comes before moving in — for free.

Volunteer realtors are provided space in the post housing office so Soldiers have a one-stop location for getting off-post housing information and help.

Realtors are not allowed to conduct business while volunteering their services, but the repertoire established between Soldiers and the realtor could lead to a working relationship later on, said the Fort Sill housing manager.

For more on this story and other Fort Sill, Okla., news, visit [www.lawton-constitution.com/cball/cannoneer.htm](http://www.lawton-constitution.com/cball/cannoneer.htm) on the Web.

**West Point:**

The Pointer View reported March 10 that the Army women's basketball team earned its first trip to the NCAA tournament March 8 by edging Holy Cross 69-68 in the Patriot League championship at Christy Arena at the academy. The team was 20-10 in regular season play. The Black Knights overcame an 11-point second-half deficit to win the championship.

For more on this story and other U.S. Military Academy news, visit [www.pointerview.com/](http://www.pointerview.com/) on the Web.

## Training miniaturizes task

### Battalion first to test handheld target acquisition devices

By Amanda Kim Stairrett  
Staff writer

A new hardware and software system introduced to Fort Riley March 14 can pare nine to 10 hours of work to about 10 minutes and can replace a huge paper map with a computerized device that

can fit in a cargo pocket of a Soldier's combat uniform.

Soldiers and officers of the 2nd Battalion, 32nd Field Artillery, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, were the first at Fort Riley to use a system called Centaur.

Centaur is a Lightweight Technical Fire Direction System that

supports airborne, air assault and light fighter units while providing immediate artillery fire direction functionality, according to the product information.

The handheld unit and the software is a backup for a unit's Advanced Field Artillery Target Designation System, which is a

computer system contained in a rugged box. The new hardware can compute safety data and has the data storage capability to perform artillery fire mission processing.

"It makes life easier," said 1st

See New device, Page 4



Post/Stairrett

A 2nd Bn., 32nd FA, Soldier trains on a Centaur Lightweight Technical Fire Direction System device.

## War wheels



Post/Stairrett

Pfc. Jason Freeman of Co. D watches another "Humvee" driver navigate through an obstacle during the "Black Lions" drivers training course March 8 before taking his turn.

### 'Black Lions' learn field driving skills

By Amanda Kim Stairrett  
Staff writer

Sgt. 1st Class Kirk Reynolds was like a dad teaching teenagers to drive.

"Brake!" he screeched.

"You're going to bust the axle!" he scolded.

"Back off, back off," he urged.

"Don't take it hard! Don't take it hard!" he yelled.

"All I ask," he said to a driver, "is that you don't spill my coffee."

The "teenagers" were Soldiers, many of whom had freshly printed military drivers licenses. They steered four "Humvees" through steep slopes, loose rubble and

deep pools of muddy water. The vehicles bounced through the course like toy trucks.

Reynolds and other Company D, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, leaders conducted a drivers training course for 43 Soldiers in the battalion's Companies A, B,

See Driving, Page 6

## Classes set up to ease return

### Soldiers back from war get 'readjustment'

Staff report

Recently redeployed Soldiers and their spouses will get help readjusting to a peaceful home environment, one another and other family members beginning April 3 at Fort Riley.

"Trooper Academy" is reintegration and well-being training given to Fort Riley Soldiers and spouses about 90 days after the Soldiers have returned from service in Iraq. Representatives of C.J. Turner Inc. of Austin, Texas, will conduct the small group, interactive education sessions through May 5.

The training goal is to minimize the adverse impact of deployment-related stress. Soldiers and their families may experience after the Soldiers' return.

The course is based on a model used for redeploying Soldiers and spouses of the 4th and 25th Infantry Divisions.

At Fort Riley, Soldiers and spouses of the 3rd Bde, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor; 541st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion; 266th Transportation Company; and the 97th Military Police Battalion will be scheduled to participate in sessions for single Soldiers, married Soldiers with no children, married Soldiers with children, Soldiers who are single parents and couples who are undergoing divorce.

Groups of 25 to 32 people will

See Academy, Page 2

## Tankers relish 'last' gunnery

### 34th Armor shoots before new remissioning

By Amanda Kim Stairrett  
Staff writer

Another table gunnery down, another remissioning to begin.

Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, conducted what was the first Table 8 gunnery for some crews, but the last for all while they remain with the battalion.

Thirty-four of the 44 crews firing at the Multi-Purpose Range Complex at Fort Riley March 10 had not shot together as a crew before, said Capt. Eilhan Diven of the battalion's training staff.

The battalion focused on

motorized patrol training for the past three years at Fort Riley, the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La., and in Iraq.

The commander, Lt. Col. Michael Higginbottom, said he planned the Table 8 training in December and January, as soon as he learned the battalion would not deploy. The last training of this type was conducted one year ago, which is a break from the normal schedule of gunnery every six months. The battalion was on notice to deploy to JRTC, Higginbottom said.

During a Table 8 gunnery, a four-man tank crew must use multiple weapons systems to engage a

variety of targets simulating enemy troops and vehicles. The Soldiers must also distinguish between enemy and friendly targets.

This was the first time the 1st Bn., 34th FA, used the table since it was updated in October, Higginbottom said. Before, the simulation was similar to what a Soldier might encounter in the European Theater. Now, the table reflects what the U.S. Army encounters in Iraq.

Second Lt. Ivan Hong of Company B's 3rd Platoon said the new tables were challenging but "doable."

See Gunnery, Page 8



Post/Stairrett

Sgt. 1st Class Barry Tyler, 3rd Platoon, Co. B, 1st Bn., 34th Armor, describes a maneuver to a tank crew evaluator after completing a gunnery run with his crew. Spec. William Frenier (left), loader; 2nd Lt. Ivan Hong (second from left); and Sgt. Andrew Pinatel, gunner, sat in during the evaluation.





## Post, Army news briefly

### Development interviews set

Representatives of the Army Human Resource Command will visit Fort Riley March 27-30 to conduct one-on-one branch interviews and provide professional development briefings for enlisted Soldiers and officers.

Those desiring an interview should sign up with their S1, who can provide briefing locations.

### Special Forces talks slated

Special Forces briefings for Soldiers interested in entering that branch are scheduled for noon each day March 28-30 in Room 2 at the education center, Building 7656, on Custer Hill.

Evening briefings are scheduled at 5:30 p.m. the same days at the Post Retention Office, Building 7852, on Custer Hill.

For more information, call Gerry J. Herron, a Special Forces recruiter, at (719) 524-1461, (719) 524-1462 or (877) 840-8499.

### ROA offers Reilly aid

The Reserve Officers Association will award up to 60 \$500 Reilly scholarships this year to undergraduate and graduate students for the 2006-2007 school year.

Undergraduate applicants must be the children, grandchildren or spouses of ROA members. Graduate applicants must be ROA members.

ROA membership is open to any active, reserve, National Guard, retired or former officer of the seven uniformed services: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, or NOAA.

For more information about ROA, call (800) 809-9448 or visit [www.roa.org](http://www.roa.org) on the Web. For more information on the

Reilly scholarship program, call Chandra Oliphant at (800) 809-9448, Extension 730.

### Hoops tourneys change 'In Step'

The Big 12 and NCAA basketball tournaments that will air on Channel 13 will move "In Step With Fort Riley" to 4:30 a.m. March 25 and April 1.

"In Step With Fort Riley" will return to 7 a.m. air time beginning with the April 9 show.

### Portal speeds tuition aid

Army Education is undergoing a revolutionary modernization and new automated process called Centralized Tuition Assistance Management.

This will give Soldiers virtual access to request tuition assistance online through a new portal.

The eArmyU portal will be replaced by the GoArmyEd portal. It will be formally launched April 1.

Soldiers will be able to request TA and register for courses online.

Education Services at Fort Riley will be conducting post-wide informational briefings for Soldiers at Barlow Theater at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. March 24 and 27.

For further information and to schedule briefings at unit level, contact an Army Education counselor at 239-6481 or 239-9485.

### Riley's offers lunch buffets

Riley's Conference Center offers a lunch buffet from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For \$6.50, diners will receive a hot entree with side dish, soup of the day, gourmet salad bar, and iced tea or water to drink.

# 1st Bde. Soldiers to deploy

## Infantry unit gets orders for Africa

By Anna Morelock  
Staff writer

Friends, family members and fellow Soldiers gathered in Craig Gym March 16 to send off about 150 Soldiers of Company A, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, who are deploying to the Horn of Africa this month.

Col. Bart Howard, commander of the 1st Infantry Division's 1st Brigade, and Brig. Gen. Dana Pittard, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) assistant division commander for maneuver, praised Co. A for its flexibility and hard work leading up to the deployment.

In preparation to deploy to Iraq at the end of 2005, the group trained at the Joint Readiness Center at Fort Polk, La., and trained on various combat missions at Fort Riley.

After receiving word that 1st Bde. wouldn't be deploying as a group to Iraq, the reassignment Soldiers continued to train.

On Jan. 26, Co. received deployment orders for the Horn of Africa.



*Post/Morelock*  
**Families and friends walk across the Craig Gym floor March 16 to say good-bye to members of Co. A, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., who will deploy to the Horn of Africa. Their mission will be military-to-military training with that area's security forces.**

The Soldiers dealt with their shifting missions with class, grace and professionalism, Pittard said. "A couple of hoops had to be jumped through, but you've done it," he told the Soldiers at the ceremony.

Pre-emption is the new goal of the company, Pittard said. By working as a part of the Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa, Co. A will be helping to

detect and disrupt terrorism. The company's part in the mission will not be direct combat, however. Its Soldiers will be conducting military-to-military training to improve local security forces.

For 50 percent of the company's Soldiers, this won't be their first deployment. Jamie Guerra, whose husband had previously deployed to Iraq, said it was a depressing time for her.

"It's sad, but I know he doesn't have a choice," she said. Guerra is pregnant with the couple's third child and said that she wouldn't make it through her husband's deployments without the support of her friends, family and especially her father.

Anna Morelock can be contacted at 239-3032 or [anna.morelock@riley.army.mil](mailto:anna.morelock@riley.army.mil).

## Academy continued from page 1

be scheduled for the sessions, with organizations maintaining squad and platoon integrity as much as possible when submitting groups for each session.

Free childcare will be provided to families when spouses attend sessions with their Soldiers.

During "Trooper Academy" sessions, all Soldiers will attend a "Stress on and off the Battlefield" class to discuss readjustments and changes in behaviors that accompany duty in a war zone. Soldiers will be shown ways to reduce stress and techniques for relaxation.

The "Coming Home: Anger

Management Workshop" will help Soldiers identify and lessen any challenges and effects of anger before and after deployment.

All Soldiers also must attend sessions on "Battlemind Transition Training." Couples, spouses and married Soldiers attending the sessions will receive a short assessment and joint training on how to cope with the stresses of deployment and reintegration.

All married Soldiers must attend an evening session on "Marriage Communication." The course looks at the effects of a long deployment on marriage,

gender communication and conflict and how to navigate through the challenges of reunion after a Soldier returns from a combat area.

Married Soldiers with children and their spouses will attend a course designed to help them face possible challenges of communicating with their children after redeployment.

Two single parent reintegration workshops are aimed at helping single parents find ways of relating to their children and dealing with the challenges they may face upon returning from a deployment.

One of the workshops covers the process of individual change and changes in friends, relatives and co-workers.

A money management workshop will explain potential financial issues Soldiers may encounter after redeployment.

A divorce recovery workshop will present information to help Soldiers coming home to a divorce in progress or who have been met with divorce papers.

The workshop focuses on issues with children, communication between parents during the divorce and the effects of divorce upon children.

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# 1st Engineer Battalion cases colors, companies reorganize

## Corps sets up 'plug and play' tactical units

By Amanda Kim Stairrett

Staff writer

"Bittersweet" is how Lt. Col. David Theisen described the inactivation of his unit, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, March 15.

The oldest engineer battalion in the U.S. Army retired its colors during a ceremony at Cavalry Parade Field at Fort Riley.

"I would have liked to redesignate rather than inactivate," Theisen said.

Companies A, B and C cased their colors and reflagged under new designations. Co. A became the 111th Sapper Company, Co. B became the 41st Mobility Augmentation Company and Co. C became the 72nd Mobility Augmentation Company.

The Forward Support Company also officially activated with Capt. Joseph Wilkerson as its commander. He came to the battalion from the 101st Forward Support Battalion, where he was the S1.

The restructuring of the battalion is part of the Corps of Engi-

"It hurts my heart to see it deactivated."

— Bob Roby  
Vietnam vet  
who served  
in the battalion

neers' restructuring plan for engineer forces across the U.S. Army.

The 1st Eng. Bn. companies will remain at Fort Riley as modular units and continue to train for future missions. The retirement and activation ceremony updated the organizations, making them "plug and play" forces tailored to the Army's mission, Theisen said.

Still, the ceremony was hard to watch for some former Soldiers of the battalion.

"It hurts my heart to see it deactivated," said Bob Roby, a Manhattan resident who served with Co. A in Vietnam from 1966 to 1967.

Roby said he "shared foxholes"

with Carl Trick, another 1st Eng. veteran who attended the ceremony.

Trick, who lives in Junction City, said 1st Eng. Soldiers stuck together and showed a lot of teamwork.

"That saying (about engineers), 'first in, last out,' is true," Trick said. He is proud of his service with the 1st Eng. Bn. and always carries two of the battalion's coins in his pockets.

Trick retired as a sergeant first class in 1974. Roby retired in 1981 as a first sergeant.

The battalion's 160-year history and the presence of veterans like Roby and Trick at the ceremony were reminders of engineers' importance in the Army, Theisen said. It reminds us that Soldiers were "doing this long before us," he said.

He said the 1st Eng. Bn. reorganized in 1917 to join the "Big Red One" and has reorganized eight times since World War II.

Amanda Kim Stairrett can be contacted at [Amanda.kim.Stairrett@riley.army.mil](mailto:Amanda.kim.Stairrett@riley.army.mil) or 239-3977.



Post/Stairrett

Capt. Travis Rayfield (left) and 1st Sgt. Steven Milton case the colors of Co. C, 1st Eng. Bn., 1st Bde., 1st Inf. Div., during a reorganization ceremony March 15 at Cavalry Parade Field. The battalion's Co. C reflagged as the 72nd Mobility Augmentation Company. Co. A reflagged as the 111th Sapper Company, and Co. B reflagged as the 41st Mobility Augmentation Company. The restructuring is part of the Corps of Engineers' restructuring plan for engineer forces Army wide.

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# Court finds MP dog handler mistreated prisoners

By Trish Hoffman  
Army News Service

FORT MEADE, Md. — A military police dog handler once stationed at Fort Riley was found guilty March 21 of charges related to maltreatment of detainees at the Abu Ghraib confinement facility in Iraq.

He was sentenced to 179 days confinement, reduction to private, forfeiture of \$750 per month for three months and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

Deliberations began March 17 in the court-martial of Sgt. Michael Smith, a 24-year-old military police dog handler with the 523rd Military Police Battalion.

Smith was accused of several violations of the Uniform Code of Military Justice stemming from incidents involving his unlicensed military working dog at the Baghdad Central Confinement Facility, Abu Ghraib, Iraq, in late 2003 and early 2004.

The charges included five counts of prisoner maltreatment, four counts of aggravated assault, two counts of conspiracy to maltreat, one count of dereliction of duty and a final charge of an indecent act.

Nine Soldiers have already been court-martialed for maltreatment and abuse of Iraqi detainees at the Abu Ghraib facility from the same time period. The trial of a second Army dog handler, Sgt. Santos Cardona, who is also accused of the maltreatment of detainees, is scheduled to begin in May.

Smith's trial began March 13 with the prosecution portraying the dog handler as a "rogue" Soldier who took pleasure in tormenting detainees with his military working dog, allegedly forcing the detainees to do "the doggie dance" as they squirmed in terror.



Post/Stairrett  
**Ben Phillips and Sam Suitt train 2nd Bn., 32nd FA, Soldiers on a new Lightweight Technical Fire Direction System called Centaur. Phillips and Suitt traveled from Fort Sill, Okla., to show the Soldiers how to use the new equipment.**

## New device continued from page 1

Lt. Jason Alexander of Battery B. "This is nice. Very nice."

The hardware model 2nd Bn., 32nd FA, is testing is a beefed up version of a typical Personal Digital Assistant. It is Army green, has a protective screen and is rugged enough to survive field conditions. Each unit, minus the software, costs about \$1,500.

Fort Riley is the first place this particular model is being tested, said Ben Phillips. Phillips and his colleague, Sam Suitt, trained the Soldiers and officers to use the new technology. Phillips and Suitt work for Engineering and Professional Services, a contractor based at Fort Sill, Okla. Both men retired from the Army.

The software can run on a regular PDA unit, and Phillips said another unit has already bought the civilian PDA models because they didn't want to wait for the ruggedized version to come on the market.

Second Lt. Mike Hayhurst of Headquarters and Headquarters

Battery said the hardware is portable and the software easy to learn. It's easy for a fire direction officer to use the handheld device in the field, and it is less equipment he has to haul to a landing zone. The technology is also a confidence builder because it checks calculations, he said.

Members of 2nd Bn., 32nd FA, were doing an excellent job of learning how to use the equipment and software, Phillips said as the Soldiers and officers quietly worked in the battalion headquarters' classroom.

The technology is on the cutting edge and these men got the latest equipment, he said.

Second Lt. Matthew Neyland of Battery A said the know-how to use the new equipment drastically cuts down his work time. "It makes my job a whole lot easier," he said.

Amanda Kim Stairrett can be contacted at [amanda.kim.stairrett@riley.army.mil](mailto:amanda.kim.stairrett@riley.army.mil) or 239-3977.

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# Commentary

Friday, March 24, 2005

Fort Riley Post

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## Riley Roundtable

### This week's question:

What's your idea about keeping people from playing their vehicle stereo system so loudly that the sound waves can be heard and felt at great distances?



"Stricter law enforcement. There should definitely be a sound pollution law. In Houston, they measure it by decibels and if it's over a certain limit, you get a ticket."

**Spec. Gilbert Hodges**  
Communications specialist  
1st Bn., 41st Inf.  
Home: Houston



"Put up signs. Signs would help people."

**Greg Morgan**  
Dining employee  
Home: Statesboro, Ga.



"We have our vehicle loud, so I don't know."

**Jessica Moyer**  
Stay-at-home mom  
Home: Watertown, N.Y.



"Fine the hell out of them."

**Sgt. Welby Richardson**  
Infantryman  
Unassigned as of yet  
Home: Gonzales, Texas



"I believe it's what we're fighting for, the freedom (to do what we want)."

**Spec. Bobby Whiting**  
Mortarman  
4th IBCT  
Home: Roseburg, Va.

### Next week's question:

What is the best advice given to you by a noncommissioned officer, and how did it affect your career or life?

Opinions may be e-mailed to the editor at [mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil](mailto:mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil) or faxed to the editor at 239-2592. Opinions must reach the editor by close of business Tuesdays to appear in the following Friday's paper.

### Command viewpoint

## Army must change to remain relevant

*Editor's note: The following remarks were made by Army Gen. Dan K. McNeill, commander of the U.S. Army Forces Command, at the Pacific Northwest National Security Forum in Tacoma, Wash., March 12 and reported in an American Forces Press Service Article written by Sara Wood.*

The U.S. Army is the greatest it's ever been, but to remain effective for the future, it must make changes. As good as the Army is today, we will need a better one tomorrow. We will need it because the strategic landscape in which we operate is changing; it is becoming considerably more complex.

The U.S. no longer faces enemies with traditional armies as it did in the Cold War, but a network of insurgents who employ irregular tactics and have no

regard for human dignity.

The Army, along with the other services, is changing to more effectively fight these enemies and to be prepared for unforeseeable future threats.

As the Army undergoes transformation, leaders keep in mind four key ideas that bring the force together:

First, Army leadership remains committed to producing units that are trained and ready for the challenges they will face. To do this, the Army has overcome years of under-funding and has changed the way it does business to ensure resources will always be available.

Second, the Army recognizes that intellectual change precedes physical change, so the Army is changing the way it trains leaders to make them more versatile. The

Army needs versatile, adaptive leaders who are able to operate in changing environments and make tough decisions. To that end, the Army is undertaking a major review of how it trains, educates and assigns leaders.

Third, Soldiers' effectiveness depends on a national commitment to recruit, train and support them properly. This commitment must be underwritten by consistent investment in Army equipment and programs.

Lastly, as the Army transforms, leaders must remember where they started. At the beginning of the war in Iraq, many units were under-equipped or ill-prepared for deployments, especially reserve and National Guard units.

To fill these slots, the Army pulled people from other units,

which created a domino effect in readiness. Army leaders learned from these mistakes and have changed the way they do business so that will not happen again.

The Army is on the right road of transformation, but it still has progress to make and will need continued financial support in key areas. Recruiting and retention efforts, the Future Combat Systems program, the Army Force Generation Model and Army installations are all things that will need funding to ensure the Army remains able to perform its mission, he said.

We have to change to maintain this great Army as a relevant force tomorrow. To remain the pre-eminent land power on Earth, it is clear to all of us who have leadership responsibilities that we have to change.

### Letters to the editor

#### MPs should curb noise, scooters

The newspaper has printed a lot of information on the military police and the job that they do on the base.

There was an article on the new radar detectors that they received and the great job the MPs do using them. I see at least three or four vehicles pulled over every day now. Good job.

What I would like to see the MPs and the civilian police do is enforce all of the rules and laws on the base.

Example: The trend of the little gas powered motorcycles. I see adults and kids riding them around on the streets in the housing areas. They do not have on helmets or the proper gear.

I called and talked to the Soldier at the MP desk, and he said that there were no restrictions on them. The Soldier stated that he had one and that you didn't have to wear the protective gear and there was no reason you couldn't ride them on the road.

What does it take to get a rule put in place?

I would also like to see the rules on vehicle sound systems posted. Riley's Rules states that you should not be able to hear a vehicle's stereo from 10 yards away. We have people in Warner Heights that drive down the street at 11 o'clock at night, and you can hear their stereo bass in the house. You can even feel the vibrations through the walls.

MPs don't even bat an eye at loud music. If you call them, they say "there isn't much we can do."

I don't care if you listen to your stereo, but I don't want to listen to it, too. If you have never pulled up to a stop light and had a guy behind you blaring their music to the point where you couldn't hear your music, you live a sheltered life.

Now that the base put a stereo store on Custer Hill, it will continue to get worse. Enforcing the standard is the only way to fix a problem.

I hope that the base starts to

get stuff fixed now, because it will get worse the more Soldiers we get here.

**Sgt. Rodney Riedesel**  
1st Battalion, 16th Infantry

#### In response:

On behalf of Lt. Col. Michael Apodaca and the Provost Marshal's Office at Fort Riley:

The PMO is working with the Staff Judge Advocate to resolve the issue with what equipment is required when operating scooters and if operation of these type vehicles is going to be allowed on Fort Riley.

The issue with playing loud music is covered in "Riley Rules" 5-9, "Excessive Noise," which sets forth the basic standard of 10 yards for Fort Riley. Included as a "general rule" is that, if someone complains that the music is too loud, the recipient of that complaint is responsible for lowering the volume to an acceptable level.

Fort Riley Regulation 190-5, 3-7, covers "Noise Limitations," as it is applicable to noise heard outside a motor vehicle. With the growing population at Fort Riley, enforcing all rules and laws is paramount with the PMO. We would ask for assistance in calling in complaints of this nature because our officers may be on another call for service.

**Capt. Stephen A. Ragan**  
Traffic Supervisor  
Provost Marshal's Office

#### Thanks for your selfless service

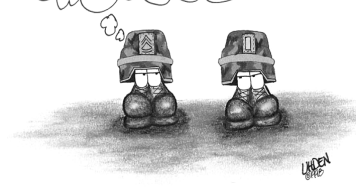
I cannot put into words the respect and gratitude I have for our troops. I am allowed to live with the freedoms we Americans take for granted solely because of the sacrifices that our American troops make for us every day.

I have lived in the Fort Riley area my whole life and can honestly say the military personnel at this post are some of the finest people in the world. Keep up the good work. Come home safe.

**Bob Nixon**  
820 Levee Drive  
Manhattan, Kan.

#### Grunt By Wayne Udden

REMEMBER LIEUTENANT,  
THA BEST PLACE  
TA FIND A HELPIN' HAND,  
IS AT THA END  
OF YOUR OWN ARM...



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**Pvt. Jose Rodriguez demonstrates how the "Humvee" he was riding in took a steep incline March 8. Soldiers in the 1st Bn., 28th Infantry, participated in a drivers training course that day to familiarize themselves with driving in field conditions.**



**Pvt. Logan Hay attaches a tow strap to the front of the "Humvee" he was driving during 1st Bn., 28th Inf., drivers training March 8. Hay was the first to try to drive through the giant mud puddle and the first to get stuck. While leaning over the front of the vehicle to attach the tow strap, Hay's cell phone slid from his pocket and dropped into the muddy water, causing him to go fishing for it. More "Black Lions" drivers found the puddle a formidable obstacle while getting a feel for driving in a field environment.**

## Driving continued from page 1

D, E and Headquarters Company March 7-9.

The training included preventive maintenance checks and services and dispatch procedures, day and night all-terrain driving, changing tire battle drills and combat recovery.

Soldiers have to be proficient in handling vehicles in any type of environment, said Capt. Timothy Wright, Co. D commander. Iraq has paved roads, but areas in the northern part of the country are much like what the Soldiers were encountering on Range 14 at Fort Riley.

Pfc. Jason Freeman of Co. D sat in the driver's seat beside Reynolds first March 8. It was his first crack at an advanced drivers training course. On one of the first obstacles, he didn't see a large tree branch protruding in the vehicle's path until it was too late. The branch shattered the passenger-side mirror and ripped off the passenger-side door handle. Reynolds had to hold his door shut the rest of the day.

"Sorry about that sergeant," Freeman said sheepishly as Reynolds gave him a parental glare.

Later, Freeman roared through a muddy crossing and slid to a halt near the three other "Humvees" on the course.

"I want to go through that again!" he said excitedly. "That's what I'm talking about!"

He and the vehicle's second driver, Spc. Jeshua Screws of HHC, hooted and hollered each time they negotiated the "Humvee" through an obstacle.

Reynolds told Freeman and Screws they had to read the terrain and have a feel for it, something that would come with time. "Become part of the machine," he advised. But that wasn't always so easy.

An obstacle that appeared to be a big puddle of water proved to be a trap for several drivers early in the day. The first to get stuck was Pvt. Logan Hay, who drove the first "Humvee" in the line of vehicles.

Fellow Soldiers gave him a ribbing as he stretched across the sunken vehicle's hood on his stomach to attach tow straps to the front so another "Humvee" could haul him out.

As Hay's chest hung over the grill, a cell phone slid out of his pocket and plunked into the pud-



**Pvt. Frank Torregrossa and Pvt. David Pinkham change a tire as fast as they can during a change tire battle drill March 8. The drill was part of 1st Bn., 28th Inf.'s, drivers training.**

dle. He got more ribbing as he fished for his phone in the deep, muddy water.

Expectations for success weren't high as Screws, who drove the fourth "Humvee" in the line, approached the puddle. No one else had made it through without getting stuck.

Screws kept the throttle pressed to the floorboard and got across the obstacle, sending towering waves of muddy water in either direction. The convoy's other Soldiers and instructors stood outside their vehicles, cheering for Screws, who smiled with a cockiness that could only come with accomplishing something others failed to do.

"So I was the only one who attempted it and made it?" he asked proudly.

When Screws, who is a chaplain's assistant, returned to the starting point, his buddies teased him, saying he only made it across because he had God on his side.

Wright said the all-terrain driving was good for the Soldiers because it helped them get over fear and trepidation. Placing experienced noncommissioned officers, such as Reynolds, in each vehicle made the training less risky, he said.

Besides learning driving skills, the Soldiers also cleaned and performed vehicle maintenance, such as replacing broken mirrors and

missing door handles, March 9 at the 610th Brigade Support Battalion motor pool.

Other training, such as the change tire battle drill and combat recovery are common duties in combat zones. The combat recovery drills are practical tasks in which one vehicle is used to extract another damaged vehicle.

Most often a tow bar is used in these situations, Wright said. But, those can be hard to come by, he said. Co. D has 20 vehicles but only one tow bar. Soldiers and NCOs who recently returned from combat, including Staff Sgt. Eric Rumbaugh, are teaching an alternative method that uses "no kidding" technology.

Straps are attached to the working and non-working vehicles. The two are linked as one vehicle pulls the other, and the Soldiers are provided cover by staying close to both vehicles.

The "Black Lions" drivers training, like much of the 1st Bn.'s training in the early stages of its organization, is a way for Soldiers to learn practical skills while waiting for all of their equipment to arrive.

"Oh, it's fun," Screws said of the drivers training. "And we get paid to do it, too."

Amanda Kim Stairrett can be contacted at [amanda.kim.stairrett@riley.army.mil](mailto:amanda.kim.stairrett@riley.army.mil) or 239-3977.

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# Fort Riley employee helps Katrina recovery

Joe Richards provides human resources support to Corps of Engineers commanders

By Amanda Kim Stairrett  
Staff writer

While people watching the news saw general destruction in the areas ravaged by Hurricane Katrina, things like damaged bridges and mangled cars, Joe Richards said he saw the personal loss.

He saw clothes still hanging in destroyed homes, mold covering everything, a teddy bear lying in a bedroom and family photos.

Richards, a human relations specialist at Fort Riley's Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, volunteered in the Baton Rouge, La.,

area Jan. 17 to Feb. 17. He served as a human resources team leader for a Corps of Engineers field office that covered an area stretching from the Texas border to the Mississippi border.

He provided human resources support, such as investigating workers compensation claims, to management in the field and to local corps commanders.

At any given time, 500 Corps of Engineers employees were in the field. They were joined by personnel from the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Corps workers came from Alaska, Japan, Europe and elsewhere.

"It's going to be a long haul, but people tend to forget."

— Joe Richards  
CEPAC employee

No district was unrepresented, Richards said.

About 18 million cubic yards of debris was removed while Richards was in Louisiana, and crews had just started demolishing uninhabitable and unreparable homes. Corps workers also removed trees and debris from public areas.

Though Richards left Louisiana just before Mardi Gras, he said community officials encouraged tourists to jump-start the economy even though residents weren't happy about visitors taking up space in hotels.

Even though the citizens are

still recovering from the effects of Hurricane Katrina, which first hit Aug. 29, they are beginning to prepare for the next hurricane season.

Katrina caused \$75 billion in damage and killed 1,599 people, according to Wikipedia.org.

Richards wanted to help because it was a unique opportunity to use his skills and provide support to people who need help.

"The least I can afford is my time," he said. Richards said the citizens in a parish in southern Louisiana were thrilled to get a soda pop machine in the community, a small thing others take for granted.

The lasting impact of his trip was remembering how easily people forgot about what's going on in the Gulf Coast area.

"They're far, far away from being where they need to be. It's going to be a long haul," he said, "but people tend to forget it."

The Dallas native first worked as a civilian at Fort Riley from 1999 to 2004. He came back in August 2005.

Before that, he served in the U.S. Army as an infantryman from 1988 to 1992.

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## Official: DoD needs more flexible civilian workforce

By Gerry J. Gilmore  
AFPS

WASHINGTON, March 3, 2006 — One day senior defense civilians could perform jobs now only filled by generals or admirals, and rank-and-file civilians could be deployed overseas to free up military members for combat-related duties, a senior DoD civilian said March 3.

"We need to be more deliberate in our thinking about the roles of each of those (positions) and

where they are somewhat interchangeable," Patricia S. Bradshaw, deputy undersecretary of defense for civilian personnel policy, said.

A senior civilian personnel expert with 27 years of DoD and Navy service, Bradshaw worked in the corporate world for six years after she retired from the government in 1999. She came back to DoD to help its workforce become more capable and relevant in the post-Sept. 11 era.

The Defense Department is

"We have not left our comfort zone."

— Patricia S. Bradshaw  
Deputy Undersecretary  
for Civilian Personnel Policy

looking to private industry models to transform its management policies for senior level and rank-and-file civilians so they can become a more capable and flexible workforce, Bradshaw said. For exam-

ple, corporations rely on business executives with broad experience to oversee many kinds of enterprises rather than tapping managers possessing expertise in narrow specialties, she said.

DoD also wants its civilians to learn new skills so they can be more flexible and available to be deployed anywhere in the world, Bradshaw said.

Military leaders need to be engaged in "managing the troops," Bradshaw said, rather than pulling duty that can be performed by civilian counterparts.

This brave new world of military-civilian interchangeability hasn't arrived yet, Bradshaw noted, because the current culture is still immersed in old-style

thinking.

Today, "if you try to select someone who comes with an enterprise view of the world, who has experience in joint matters, the military will beat out the civilian (candidate) every time because we haven't been deliberate in that."

It's time "to fix that," Bradshaw said, "not only at the Senior Executive Service level, but as we think about how we grow our people below the SES level and prepare them for those jobs."

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# Gunnery

continued from page 1

After completing the Table 8 gunnery, crews will turn in their tanks and return to training as motorized units.

Higginbottom said the Soldiers wouldn't always need the Table 8 skills if they were in motorized units in Iraq, but they were always good skills to have.

This training could be the last tank gunnery Fort Riley sees for two to three years, Driven said.

Spc. Richard Bailey, a loader on an M1A1 Abrams tank crew, said the new tables were more difficult but involved the entire tank crew. It isn't just the tank commander and gunner anymore.

Hong said everything depends on how fast the tank's loader loads. Pfc. John Staubs is one of those loaders who is proud of his role.

He described himself as a gopher because he's the one who does the odd jobs, such as ground guidance and providing back-up fire with an M-240 machine gun. What he likes most, however, is his role inside the tank.

"I like that fact that you're the

one responsible for 50- to 60-pound rounds," he said. "You're the one responsible for keeping the breach in operation."

The biggest adjustment for Bailey is going from being fully protected in a tank to the lighter armored protection afforded on a "Humvee." "I'm going to miss my tank," he said.

The battalion already has some experience training as a motorized unit at JRTC. Bailey said, and the Soldiers will do what they have to do to fit the remissioning.

"We're going to miss the big guns," he said, "but we've got 'em there if they need them."

Still, some of the duties that drew many to the armor Military Occupation Specialty will be shelved for now.

For Bailey, it was the thrill and appeal of "operating a 60-ton piece of equipment that shoots really big bullets," what he called the true "king of the battlefield."

Amanda Kim Stairrett can be contacted at [amanda.kim.stairrett@riley.army.mil](mailto:amanda.kim.stairrett@riley.army.mil) or 239-3977.



Post/Name

Crews man their tanks at the Bore-sight Line, the area where the tank crews align all of their weapons sight systems. The Soldiers have been training as motorized units and completed tank gunnery before switching back to motorized training.

A 1st Bn., 34th Armor, Soldier directs a tank driver as he parks in the Bore-sight Line area March 10 at the Multi-purpose Range Complex. The line area is where tanks align all of their sight systems.

Post/  
Stairrett



Post/Stairrett

Pfc. William Mooren of 3rd Pltn., Co. B, sits in the driver's seat of his tank after completing a gunnery exercise March 10.



Post/Stairrett

Sgt. Willie Mabry, 1st Bn. 34th Armor, works in a tank March 10 at the Multi-purpose Range Complex.

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672962 What are you 3/3







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@21.5 there's a name for sold





Post/Stairrett

Envision Xpress' new building (left) is next door to its current space, Building 7921. Store Manager David Arnold said the building is scheduled for completion May 1.

## Post building bigger supply center

Envision Xpress space will more than triple in square footage

By Amanda Kim Stairrett

Staff writer

Moving into a new building and updating facilities will help Envision Xpress evolve with the changing face of Fort Riley, said Viktor Bojorquez, distribution facilities specialist.

Envision Xpress is like a giant supply cabinet located on Custer Hill. It equips Soldiers, civilian employees, contractors and local ROTC organizations with items such as office supplies, furniture, janitorial supplies and cold weather gear.

Bojorquez said because Fort Riley is at the forefront of developing into a more mobile force, the move at Envision Xpress would help serve the post better.

Increasing the store's space and stock will be more convenient for the customers because they can get the products they need when they need them, said David Arnold, Envision Xpress manager.



### SURVEYING THE FUTURE

A SERIES ON THE GROWTH OF FORT RILEY

er. Getting supplies to Soldiers more quickly, whether they're going out to the field or deploying, is a role the new facility will play in Fort Riley's future, Arnold said.

Arnold and his three employees will move from their current building that contains about 2,000 square feet to a 7,000 square foot facility several steps away from the current location. The new building is scheduled for completion May 1 and Arnold expects a July 11 grand opening and vendor

show. Envision Xpress has been at its current location since May 1999, when the company was first established at Fort Riley.

The larger building will allow the company to stock a wider variety of merchandise and store its current inventory in a more convenient location. Envision Xpress currently shares a warehouse behind its building with the Directorate of Logistics.

Arnold will hire two more employees to accommodate the expansion, and expand the store's

hours by an hour when the new facility opens. Operating hours will be from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Envision Xpress is operated by Envision, a nonprofit agency that employs blind or low-vision individuals. Fort Riley's Envision Xpress employs one visually impaired cashier. Another would be hired for the new store, Arnold said, along with another person to act as a cashier, stocker and delivery driver.

Each Envision store must have a ratio of visually impaired employees to fully sighted employees. The Fort Riley store is required to employ one visually impaired employee.

Planning for the new building began in September 2004. Currently, the building's frame, siding and concrete floor are complete.

Amanda Kim Stairrett can be contacted at [amanda.kim.stairrett@riley.army.mil](mailto:amanda.kim.stairrett@riley.army.mil) or 239-3977.

## Korea repeats culinary effort

Fort Riley wins field cooking

Fort Lee, Va., PAO

FORT LEE, Va. — Soldier-chefs from Team Korea pulled off a repeat victory this month, claiming the Installation of the Year title at the 31st Annual U.S. Army Culinary Arts Competition for the second straight year.

Fort Riley's team won the field cooking competition, ahead of Fort Bragg, N.C., and Team U.S. Army Europe, who placed second and third in that category, respectively.

Team Korea and winners in other categories were recognized at an awards ceremony held March 17, concluding the two-week long competition.

"It was a really close competition right up until the last day when we won the student team skills competition. Our team really worked well together," said Chief Warrant Officer Travis Smith, the Team Korea team manager.

Fort Bragg placed second and Team USAREUR finishing third in the Installation of the Year competition.

Winners in the other major competition categories were:

Senior Army Chef of the Year: Spc. Jeffery Lagyak, Fort Bliss, Texas

Junior Army Chef of the Year: Cpl. Randy Agno, Team Hawaii

Student Team Skills Competition:

Team Korea

Winners in special categories were:

Best Exhibit, Cold Food Buffet: Sgt. Jason Pratt, Team Korea

Best Exhibit, Hot Food Shown Cold: Staff Sgt. Bernard Book, Team Korea

Best Exhibit in Pastry and Confection: Spc. Alicia Hight, Team USAREUR

Best Exhibit in Culinary Showpiece: Spc. Jowanna Carroll, Team USAREUR

Special Judges Award, Most Artistic Centerpiece: Spc. Carmen Rosario, Fort Bragg

Best Team Table Exhibit: Team USAREUR

Highest Score in Contemporary Cooking: Sgt. Joshua Speiss, Fort McNair, D.C.

Highest Score in Contemporary Pastry: Spc. Joanna Carroll, Team USAREUR

Best Two-Member Team, Nutritional Hot Food Challenge: Team Hawaii

Baron H. Garland Culinary Knowledge Bowl: Team Korea

Best Centerpiece in Ice: Sgt. First Class David Russ, Fort Bragg

Fort Lee is the host for the prestigious military culinary competition. The competitors are Soldiers first and culinary artists second, with many of this year's competitors serving in combat operations overseas.

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House fill ad

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2X5.5 Seth Childs Mar TF



# Fort Riley Community Life

Friday, March 24, 2006

America's Warfighting Center

Page 11

## Community news briefly

### Oz characters to visit Main PX

Meet characters from the Wizard of Oz from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 1 at the Post Exchange on Custer Hill. Dorothy and her friends will be on post to help the Family Advocacy Program promote Child Abuse Prevention Month. For more information call 239-9435.

### Spiderman set to visit post

Spiderman from Marvel characters will visit Fort Riley to talk to children about bullying and child abuse prevention March 31. The three performances are:

Morris Hill Elementary School from 9:30-9:45 a.m.  
Washington Elementary School from 1-1:45 p.m.  
Rally Point Family Night from 6-6:45 p.m. (open to the community)

### Rec center sets gardening class

Sign up at Outdoor Recreation to learn more about gardening. "Getting Your Soil Ready" will be held at West Acres Nursery in Junction City from 1 to 2 p.m. April 8.

Sign up by for the free class by calling Outdoor Rec at 239-2363 no later than April 7.

The class will cover soil temperature, when to plant, how to prepare the beds, container planting and vegetable/flower plant beds.

### Post-wide yard sale set

The post-wide yard sale will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 6.

### SAS schedules spring carnival

School Age Services will host its spring carnival from 6 to 8 p.m. April 28.

There will be a theater performance of "Harris and Tarts", the Boys and Girls Club movie making project, along with other children and parent activities. For additional information call 239-9220.

### CDC hosts Super Saturday

The Child Development Center will host a pancake feed from 8-10 a.m. April 1 at School Age Services, Building 5810, in recognition of Month of the Military Child.

Also as a part of Super Saturday, a parent and staff training will be held at 9 a.m. at the Child Development Center, Building 6950. The class will cover cooking with children, home safety proofing, scrapbooking and more. Call the Fort Riley CDC at 239-9935 for additional information.

### Auto center offers checks

Deployed soldiers' family members can come by for a free, 25-point automotive check. You must have verification of soldier or unit deployment, ID card and vehicle registration or title. For more information contact the Auto Skills Center at 239-9764.

## USD 475 breaks ground for school

By Anna Morelock  
Staff writer

Businesses and housing aren't the only elements booming in the Fort Riley area. School district officials plan to increase the number and size of schools used by Fort Riley families.

Geary County Unified School District 475 has two new schools and additions to two existing schools on the drawing boards, but the growth won't stop there.

Compared to housing, where contractors come in and put up the money to build new homes,

schools have to find funding in other ways, said USD 475 Superintendent Ronald Walker.

"Part of what we did here was pass the bond issue, but the other part to that is to seek federal dollars," Walker said. "Our local district is doing everything it can possibly do to create and generate possible money. The state has really stretched itself. The only entity that has not chipped in is the (federal) government."

As a member of the Seven Rivers National Coalition, the district submitted a request for \$114 million in federal money to fur-



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ther expand area schools. As a part of the coalition, the district has the force of seven military installations that are expecting growth to provide demographic

D.C., with other coalition representatives this month to help pave the way for federal funding. The coalition testified before the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Military Quality of Life and Veterans Affairs to let the government know what the school districts are up against.

John Phillips, superintendent of schools for the Muscogee County School District in Columbus, Ga., spoke to the committee on the coalition's behalf about

Walker traveled to Washington,

See USD 475, Page 13

## Timber!



Post/Stairrett

Kevin Walker (front) carries dead branches out of a windbreak along 1st Division Road. As a requirement to earn his Eagle Scout rank, Walker organized a project to cut down diseased trees at Fort Riley.

## Boy Scout earns Eagle rank

By Anna Morelock  
Staff writer

Kevin Walker, a sophomore at Manhattan High School, and a group of volunteers he organized to earn his Eagle Scout rank, cut down eleven diseased trees that marred Fort Riley's landscape along 1st Division Road near the main fire station and golf course March 18.

Walker organized and led the project in order to become the sixth and last brother in his family to become an Eagle Scout, the Boy Scout's highest rank.

The project came about when his father, Fort Riley employee Michael Walker, noticed the brown wilting trees while driving on post one day. After speaking with

the golf course groundskeeper about the situation, he suggested the trees' removal to his son as a project.

It took Walker six hours to organize the project, which required 50 to 80 man-hours to complete. Because he had volunteers to help him, the group only had to work from about 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. to meet the project portion of the rank's requirements.

Walker, who has taken part in Scouting since he was 8 years old, said he wanted to complete the Eagle Scout requirement because it would look good on his resume, and he didn't want to be the only brother not to earn one.

"Scouting really teaches boys leadership," said Walker's mother Viola. "All these things that they learn in Scouting

carry over."

Walker's father said the day turned out "pretty cool" and that his son even arranged for the Army and Air Force Exchange Service to donate lunch from the Burger King on post.

"He's been a pretty self-motivated fellow," Michael said of his son. The father of the six boys said of course he has to give credit to his six sons for completing and working on their Eagle Scout ranks, but that their mother has also played an interested role in helping the boys toward their goals.

Walker's goal the day of his project included not only the group cutting down

See Eagle Scout, Page 12

## Schools commit to help students

By Anna Morelock  
Staff writer

Five area school superintendents joined Fort Riley Garrison Commander Col. Thomas "Ty" Smith at Riley's Conference Center March 13 to sign the Secondary Education Transition Agreement.

Chris Kleidosty, Rural Vista School District; Brad Stuns, Riley School District; Tony Frieze, Chapman School District; Brady Burton, Blue Valley School District; and Scott Carter, Herington School District are now among more than 200 school district superintendents who have signed the agreement and committed their districts to developing and improving systems to help transitioning military-connected and other highly mobile students.

The agreement is the result of a study commissioned by the Army Community and Family Support Center to study the impact of transitions on high school-age military-connected students. The study found that, on average, those students transition between schools more than twice during high school.

The study also outlined 10 major issues that affect transitioning students and developed them into the 10 guiding principles.

As a part of the agreement, Fort Riley and the signing school districts agree to work on the 10 principles.

- To improve the timely transfer of records;
- To develop systems to ease student transition during the first two weeks of enrollment;
- To promote practices which foster access to extracurricular programs;
- To establish procedures to lessen the adverse impact of moves from the end of the student's junior year, as well as before and during the senior year;
- To communicate variations in the school calendars and sched-

See SETS, Page 12

### Lowdown on sweetness

## Too sweet to be true: How healthy are sweeteners?



Cpt. Bethany Deschamps

By Bethany Deschamps  
LACH

Today's grocery store shelves are bombarded with various types of food products and beverages labeled, "low-sugar," "25% less sugar," "no sugar added" and "sugar-free."

The increase in health and nutrition awareness by society has escalated the sales of these products. A diet high in sugar has many pitfalls to include an increased risk of dia-



### FOR YOUR HEALTH

betes, obesity, high triglycerides and tooth decay. Sweeteners completely or partially replace sugar in a food product or beverage, lowering the overall sugar and calorie content. Advancements in food technology and development have

improved the taste of foods and beverages sweetened with sweeteners. They now taste very similar, if not the same as the original versions.

Most sweeteners are chemical-based, which heightened concerns

by the Food and Drug Administration and other agencies about the health of consumers who ingested products containing sweeteners. Makers of products like Equal (aspartame) and Sweet-n-Low (saccharin) have been questioned about the products' safety because of certain studies proving a potential to cause health problems. However, many of the studies have proven to be false. All sweeteners used in food and beverages today have

See Sweetener, Page 12







## Community news briefly

### Middle school events planned

**March 31** – 8 to 10:30 p.m., Spring Fling middle school dance

**April 1** – 3 to 6 p.m., newcomer's tour

**April 1** – 9 p.m. to 6 a.m., middle school lock-in

**April 7** – 7 to 10 p.m., newcomer's pizza party

For more information on these events call the Middle School Teen Center at 239-9222.

### CYS to host open houses

In celebration of Month of the Military Child, Child and Youth Services will be hosting Open Houses for all programs on April 3rd.

• Child Development Center, Bldg 6950 2:00-6:00pm

• School Age Services, Bldg 5810 4:00-8:00pm

• Middle School Teen Center, Bldg 5800 4:00-8:00pm

• Outreach Services, Bldg 6620 2:00-5:00pm

• SKIES, Bldg 6620 7:00-9:00pm

Other Activities are planned for the month. Please check with the individual CYS programs for times and dates.

### Teen Center lists activities

**March 17** – 7 to 10 p.m., newcomer's barbecue

**March 18** – 3 to 4 p.m., youth sponsorship training

**March 18** – 9 p.m. to midnight, midnight basketball

**March 20** – Teen Center closed

**March 25** – 6 to 9 p.m., Parent Advisory meeting & family potluck

**March 31** – 8 to 10:30 p.m., spring fling middle school dance, members - \$1.50, non-members - \$2.50

For more information, call the Teen Center at 239-9222.

### Easter brunch, egg hunt planned

Military families are invited to an Easter brunch and egg hunt at Riley's Conference Center April 16.

Brunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$17.95 for adults age 17 and older and \$7.50 for children ages 3 to 16. Children under 3 eat free.

The traditional brunch includes honey glazed ham, carved steamship round of beef au jus, fried chicken, scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, almonds, macaroni and cheese, dinner roll, salad bar and assorted desserts.

Three free egg hunts will be conducted on grounds adjacent to Riley's, with the first beginning at 2 p.m. Hunts will be arranged according to age groups determined by those present. Easter treats for all age groups will be available.

For more information or to make reservations, call (785) 784-1000.

### Association offers scholarship

The National Military Family Association is offering applications for its Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarships. Any uniformed service spouse – active duty, retired, National Guard, Reserve or survivor – studying toward professional certification or attending post-secondary or graduate school can apply.

Scholarships, normally in the amount of \$1,000, may be used for tuition, fees, books and school room and board. The number of scholarships awarded each year varies.

Applications can be found at <http://www.nmfa.org/scholarships2006>. Applications will only be accepted online and must be submitted by midnight April 15.

### Art workshop planned

Child and Youth Services will offer an art workshop in Building 6620 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 20 through 24. Children ages 6 and older are welcome. Registration begins Feb. 15 in Building 6620. Cost for the weeklong workshop and art supplies is \$35. Participants must bring a sack lunch. For more information, call 239-4847.

### Robin Hood auditions set

Group auditions for the Fort Riley SKIES Program's presentation of Robin Hood will begin at 9 a.m. July 10. Sixty parts for first through twelfth graders and four assistant director positions are open. Registration begins May 1. For more information call 239-4847.

## Sweetner

continued from page 1

been approved by the FDA for safe consumption. Products undergo extensive safety evaluations that far exceed consumption levels for the average healthy adult. Products that have been evaluated include saccharin, aspartame, acesulfame-K, sucralose (Splenda), neotame and tagatose. The FDA reports that "there is little direct clinical evidence showing negative long-term effects of these sweeteners on overall health."

All sweeteners are considered a carbohydrate, like sugar, and provide four calories per gram. Most sweeteners are considered calorie-free because they are much sweeter than sugar and the amount of sweetener needed to sweeten a product is very small.

Tagatose is the only exception to the rule. It is not sweeter than sugar but provides only 1.5 calories per gram. There are also a few sweeteners whose structures are recognized by the body and are excreted through urine.

Characteristics differ for each sweetener. Some of these characteristics include molecular structure, sweetness, heat tolerance, acceptable daily intake and preferred ways of use.

Saccharin is used in many food products and can be sold separately. Its known brand name is Sweet-N-Low. It is mostly used as a tabletop

sweetener in foods and as a sweetener for beverages. It is 200 to 700 times sweeter than sugar and the acceptable daily intake is 5 milligrams per kilogram of body weight (to find weight in kilograms, divide weight in pounds by 2.2).

It is heat stable, meaning it maintains its sweetness when heated, so it can be used in cooked and baked foods. It is not a potential carcinogen, or something which causes cancer. For more information go to <http://www.saccharin.org>

Aspartame is recognized by the brand name NutraSweet or Equal. It is used as a general-purpose sweetener for use in all foods and beverages. It is 160 to 220 times sweeter than sugar and the acceptable daily intake is 50 mg/kg of body weight.

People with phenylketonuria, or PKU disease, should not consume aspartame. It loses its sweetness with prolonged exposure to the high temperatures of oven or range heat and decomposes over an extended period of time in liquids.

When cooking, add aspartame toward the end to prevent losing sweetness. For more information go to <http://www.aspartame.org>

Acesulfame-K is recognized by the brand name Sunett or Sweet One and is used as a general-purpose sweetener. It is approximately 200 times sweeter than sugar and accept-

able daily intake is 15 mg/kg of body weight. It has a high degree of stability over a wide range of temperature and pH storage conditions, and 95 percent of the consumed sweetener is excreted in urine. Sweetening power is not reduced with heating. For more information go to [http://www.ific.org/publications/brochures/acesulfame\\_k.cfm](http://www.ific.org/publications/brochures/acesulfame_k.cfm)

Sucralose is recognized by the brand name Splenda and is used as a general-purpose sweetener. It is 600 times sweeter than sugar and acceptable daily intake is 5 mg/kg of body weight. It is the only non-caloric sweetener created from sugar and is chemically modified to become a nonnutritive powder so the body does not recognize it as a carbohydrate. Its sweetening power is not reduced with cooking and is very acceptable in recipes because it provides bulk and can be measured like sugar. For more information go to <http://www.splenda.com>

Neotame has no recognized brand name but is made by the NutraSweet Company and sold mostly to soft-drink companies. It is 7,000 to 13,000 times sweeter than sugar and acceptable daily intake is 18 mg/kg of body weight. It is used primarily to sweeten soft drinks but is also found as a tabletop sweetener, in frozen desserts, chewing gum, baked goods, sauces and cereals.

Unlike NutraSweet, and the sweetening power is not reduced

with cooking. For more information go to <http://www.neotame.com>

Tagatose is recognized by the brand name Gaio and is generally recognized as safe. It is 75 to 92 percent as sweet as sugar and acceptable daily intake is 0.25 mg/kg of body weight. It is derived from lactose and more than 99 percent pure. It is used in ready-to-eat cereals, diet soft drinks, health bars, frozen desserts and chewing gum. It can be used sparingly in cooking and provides the taste and texture of sugar. For more information go to <http://www.gaio-tagatose.com>

The benefits of a low-sugar diet far outweigh the

unlikely potential health risks of sweeteners. Trying to replace high-sugar foods in the diet with foods containing a sweetener instead could help decrease the risk of developing many health problems. If you have any questions concerning sweeteners or any other nutrition-related concerns, please contact the Irwin Army Community Hospital Nutrition Care Division at (785) 239-7644 or [bethany.de schamps@cen.amedd.army.mil](mailto:bethany.de schamps@cen.amedd.army.mil).

*Capt. Bethany Deschamps is the Dietitian and Chief of the Nutrition Care Division at IACH.*

## Eagle Scout

continued from page 11

the trees, but cutting the trunks and limbs into manageable pieces. The group then made four trips – each with a convoy of five trucks – to the environmental waste site on post where the diseased wood will either be buried or burned.

Fort Riley has about 50 trees on and around the golf course that have the disease to which the removed trees succumbed.

The trees that have the disease, which is carried by Pine Sawyer beetles, must be removed and buried or burnt in order to lessen the chance of it spreading to surrounding healthy

Manhattan and Geary County school districts signed the agreement a few years ago.

Mark Neely, Fort Riley urban forester, said the beetle problem has been a long-standing issue, not only with the

with cooking. For more information go to <http://www.neotame.com>

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## SETS

continued from page 11

ules;

- To create and implement professional development systems;
- To continue strong, child-centered partnerships between the installation and school;
- To provide information concerning graduation requirements; and
- To provide specialized services for transitioning students when they are applying to and finding funding for post secondary study.

Eric Childs, Fort Riley school liaison officer, the agreement will help facilitate communication between the signing schools and make transitions smoother.

By just linking the schools together, if they have a question they'll already know or have some association with the other schools to get an answer, Childs said. Another benefit, he said, is that schools that haven't had much association with military children in the past will now have a better



CYS/Childs  
**Superintendents sign the SETS Agreement March 15.**

understanding of their challenges and needs.

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD-MANHATTAN  
2 x 4"  
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2x5 Brooks Sameday

KANSAS PRESS  
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Kansas Univ Cont. Education

KCLY 100.9 FM (THE LYNX)  
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Black Only  
2X5 KCLY Taste of Home Ad

G.C.H. HOME MEDICAL EQUIPMENT  
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2x4 GCH

KANSAS PRESS  
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## USD 475 continued from page 11

"the perfect storm or, to be accurate, three separate storms" that the districts were facing — Base Realignment and Closure, the transformation of the Army and global repositioning of military units.

Phillips described to the committee concerns the seven districts have about the space and logistical demands that roughly 10,000 new students would have on the districts.

The current estimate Phillips gave for his own district approached \$350 million, but he added, "the problems they are facing at schools near Fort Riley have an even shorter fuse than ours."

Phillips closed his address by describing the information the districts had available, reiterating the help that local and state entities were providing and stressing the importance of the issue.

"The clock is ticking, and the armor-piercing issue is simple," Phillips said. "If we are to maintain a strong, voluntary armed forces, we must provide a quality of life for our military families, which they so richly deserve. Without federal assistance, this is not within our reach."

Of the 10,000 students expected to arrive in the seven districts, USD 475 is anticipating between 2,500 and 3,000. That number is close to a 50 percent increase that's going to occur in population, Walker said.

"We're looking at adding elementary schools," Walker said. "We're also requesting that there might be the possibility of adding a second, smaller high school and maybe some more expansions."

On Fort Riley, Walker said the district will definitely have to add

another elementary school, probably in the Camp Forsyth area. "We don't know yet because we really haven't had a chance to sit down with Picerne (Military Housing) and (U.S. Army) Garrison command to look at full details of what we want to add there," Walker said. "Our rule of thumb is pretty much for every 400 or 500 homes you add an elementary school."

Walker said the district was looking at elementary schools first because its demographic data indicated that would be the largest expanding group initially. "Now we know with the longer duty stays they will eventually go into the middle schools and maybe even to the high schools," Walker said. "We have to make plans for that also, but the first emphasis will be elementary schools."

Ground was broken for the new middle school March 17, and Walker said he expects that will be complete for the 2007-2008 school term. A new elementary school will come online about the same time, he added.

Besides the new schools, Eisenhower and Sheridan Elementary Schools also have expansion projects under way.

With new schools and new students come new teachers and staff. Last year, the district added 42 new teachers, so Walker said he didn't expect to add many staff members this year. The 42 new teachers were all placed in classrooms with smaller class sizes, so when the new students arrive the classrooms will be set up and they'll just be added to the class.

The new middle school already has teachers waiting for their spaces in the new building, but the new elementary school still needs



*Post/Morelock*  
**USD 475 Superintendent Ronald Walker and Maj. Colleen Wright, Fort Riley garrison operations officer, take part in the groundbreaking ceremony March 17 for the new middle school.**

to be staffed next year, Walker said. "Next year will be another transition year for the state and I don't know if that many schools will be hiring, so we'll be in a position as new graduates come out to really meet with them and discuss with them," Walker said, "and hopefully there are some (military) spouses who are certified or who can get certified."

Walker said he encourages mil-

itary spouses to look online for vacancies in the district and explore that as a job possibility. "We know we always get quality people, and we're anxious for them to apply," he said about the spouses.

Besides new teachers, Walker said the district now has a special assistant to the superintendent whose job it is to specifically work with military concerns.

"It's a position we thought about bringing in last year but the funding really wasn't there," Walker said. "This year it was absolutely necessary. Debbie Bengtson filled the new position and brings a wealth of knowledge of military families, transitions and how to make life easier for military families once they get here, Walker said.

"She's going to try to make certain that the way is paved very smoothly for families coming in," Walker said.

Although the district jumped onboard as soon as it heard the early announcement of the new Soldiers arriving at Fort Riley, Walker said his biggest issue is still time.

Everyone is busy, Walker said. The staff is working on completing this school year, making plans for next year, working on the growth, looking at assessments given by the state and just the day-to-day routines of running a school, he added.

"There's a lot on the plate and a lot of my staff members have extra duties assigned to them," Walker said. "There's this little clause in the contract that says 'other duties as assigned,' and I've been exercising that quite a bit this year."

Despite the increased workload, Walker said he's heard no complaints.

"The teachers, the administrators in this district, they have performed at 200 percent," he said. "They have gone over and beyond anything I ever dreamed. They just roll their sleeves up and go to work."

Walker said he also receives support from the district's Board of Education. It is perhaps the "model board in my mind," he

said.

"The civilian leadership along with the military leadership have just really pulled together to make this a unique place to work and be," Walker said about the support he's received.

Walker said Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commander of the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, Col. Thomas Smith, U.S. Army Garrison commander, and Maj. Colleen Wright, Installation Management Agency officer in charge, have all played vital parts in what the district does.

"They have worked extremely close to make sure that the information we need is here and I don't think we could ask for any better partners," Walker said. "The ease with which I can go in and speak with any of them provides us with such a strong group of interested parties who want the best for the kids and the Soldier families."

Walker has been in the district for three years. When he first came from Oklahoma City, Walker said he was told this was a pretty stable school district where nothing much changed. Walker became superintendent about a year later and received a call from Smith about a month after that. Walker said Smith told him about the first group of Soldiers expected to arrive.

"We might have to do things differently, but we can absorb that," Walker replied.

The BRAC announcement was another story, Walker said. "When the BRAC announcement came out, I just kind of sat down and said, 'wow, this community that really never changes is going to experience some big changes.'"

Anna Morelock can be contacted at 239-3032 or [anna.morelock@riley.army.mil](mailto:anna.morelock@riley.army.mil).



# Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Page 14

America's Warfighting Center

Friday, March 24, 2006

## Sports news in brief

### Combatives team places

The Fort Riley combatives team brought home six medals March 4 from the Grace Worlds event at the Arnold Schwarzenegger Classic in Columbus, Ohio.

The eight-man team, which is comprised of Soldiers and their civilian instructors, fought in brackets at the tournament based on their experience and age.

Medalists were:

**Gold** - John Menke, combatives instructor

**Silver** - Sgt. 1st Class Eugene Alessa, 101st Forward Support Battalion

**Silver** - David Durnhil, combatives instructor

**Silver** - Ethan Day, combatives instructor

**Bronze** - Joe Wilk, combatives instructor

**Bronze** - Alex DiBenedetto, combatives instructor

### Youth turkey hunt scheduled

The Fort Riley Outdoors Group is sponsoring a youth turkey hunt for family members of deployed soldiers. If interested, please contact the Fort Riley Outdoors Group at 239-6211. Any other youth who would like assistance getting started turkey hunting will also be considered on a space available basis.

### MP to be on TV

Pfc. Marcus B. Winkler, a military policeman in Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Special Troops Battalion, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, will appear live on cable channel WGN at 5 p.m. April 1 and 2 in an Ultimate Arena Paintball League match.

### Bird watching class slated

The Outdoor Recreation Center invites you to join them for a free Basic Bird Watching Class on April 15th. Spend the morning with an avid bird-watcher and learn about the birds found in Kansas and the Fort Riley area. This is an outside event, so dress according to the weather. This class will also require extensive walking in different types of terrain. Bring your cameras or field glasses to get a closer look at the birds.

The class will be held at Moon Lake at the East Playground (turn right at the entrance). You must sign up at Outdoor Recreation Center, Bldg. 9011, Rifle Range Road. If you have question you can call 239-2363 or 239-6368 for more information.

### Shorin-Ryu karate offered

An Okinawan Shorin-Ryu karate class is being offered for kids ages 5 to 18 at the Middle School Teen Center on Saturdays. The class for ages 5 to 10 is from 10 to 11 a.m. or from 11 to noon and costs \$45 per month. The class for ages 11 to 18 is from 11 a.m. to noon or from 12:30 to 2 p.m. and costs \$55 per month.

Take advantage of the early bird special by paying in person at Central Enrollment Registry and get \$5 off.

Registration for classes begins April 14th, 2006. There are 15 spaces available in each class.

## Bring it on

### FRMS students, faculty take to hardwood

By Anna Morelock  
Staff writer

Students and faculty at Fort Riley Middle School joined forces during a basketball game March 17 to kick off spring break.

Interested students, who didn't participate in a student and faculty volleyball game earlier in the year, were eligible to sign up for the game. Names of the eligible players were then drawn from a pile to create two teams, Fort Riley and the Troopers. The teams had a new set of players consisting of two faculty members and three students for each of the six six-minute quarters of the game.

The excitement started off with the Troopers pulling ahead in the first quarter 6-4. The green-shirted team's edge didn't last for long though as their orange-shirted rivals gained a two point lead with just 25 seconds left in the second quarter. From that point on, the teams ran up and down the court as the advantage went quickly from one team to another. The close game ended amidst cheers from the middle school spectators with a score of Fort Riley 42, Troopers 41.



A Fort Riley Middle School student passes the ball to a faculty teammate as he runs down the court March 17. The student and teacher game was a kick off for spring break.

## Beauty queen dives from 13,000 feet

### Miss USA skydives with Golden Knights

By Reesa B. Kosoff  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON - Miss USA Chelsea Cooley soared through the sky at an altitude of 13,000 feet during a tandem skydive with the U.S. Army Parachute Team, the Golden Knights, March 14.

The tandem jump was coordinated in conjunction with her USO visit to Fort Bragg, N.C.

Millions of people in more than 90 countries watched as Cooley was crowned Miss USA April 11, 2005. A native of Charlotte, N.C., Cooley has spent the past year as Miss USA, championing the causes of breast and ovarian cancer education and research.

Cooley has also become a USO celebrity and has visited a variety of military bases, including: Camp Lejeune, N.C.; Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba; and McGuire Air Force Base, N.J. Her constant interaction and support of the military fueled her interest in performing a tandem jump with the Golden Knights, she said.

### Training puts Cooley on Cloud 9

As part of her USO visit, Cooley arrived at Fort Bragg early in the morning on March 14 and was flown to the nearby Laurinburg-Maxton airport. There, she was met by her family who accompanied her to a one-hour training session conducted by tandem master Sgt.

1st Class Billy Van Soelen.

Cooley quickly learned about parachuting equipment, skydiving techniques and what to expect during the jump. As soon as the morning clouds cleared, Miss USA suited up and boarded the DeHavilland UV-18 twin Otter plane. Together with her tandem partner, Sgt. 1st Class Greg Windmiller, Cooley performed her jump from an altitude of 13,500 feet.

Upon return to the ground, Cooley could barely contain her excitement.

"It was everything I thought it could be and more!" she exclaimed. "The Golden Knights are the best of the best."

See Skydiving, Page 15

## Staff learns proper use of post's fitness workout equipment

By Amanda Kim Stairrett  
Staff writer

A fitness expert was at Fort Riley last week training the trainers. Personnel from King Field House, Leonard, Craig and Long fitness centers attended seminars March 14-16 to learn how to properly use workout equipment.

Those trainers, civilians and Soldiers, will then be able to take that information back to their gyms and aid Soldiers, spouses, civilian employees and veterans who come to work out.

David Koon, an fitness expert from Summit Life Systems, said he wasn't at Fort Riley to certify the gym personnel, but to teach them fitness fundamentals.

He wanted the employees to raise their comfort zone and feel confident in setting an individual up on a piece of workout equipment.

Koon is based out of Virginia Beach, Va., and said Summit Life Systems partners with military installations for this type of training.

Koon's training included basic anatomy and physiology, free weight and equipment training, and gym safety.

He also spent some time talking about workout tips Soldier trainers could suggest to other Soldiers.

Often, gyms don't have enough staff and people who come in to work out aren't given instruction on how to properly use the equipment, Koon said.

Those people could then wind up hurting themselves, said Spc. Raymond Rodriguez, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment.

Rodriguez and Spc. Neil Kline, HHC, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., were partners during the three-day training and work at Craig Fitness Center.

John Swan and Jessica Smith are recreation assistants at Long Fitness Center. The two practiced giving each other guidance on the equipment during training March 16.

Swan guided Smith as she used



John Swan, a recreation assistant at Long Fitness Center, instructs Jessica Smith, a recreation aide at Long Fitness Center, on how to properly use the "Fly" machine. The two were practicing how they would teach a gym visitor during three days of training for Fort Riley gym employees.

the "fly" machine, which worked the upper body. He repositioned her arms and gave tips on how to get the most out of her workout.

Swan said the training was helpful because they could orient themselves on the equipment and, in turn, increase customer service.

The duties of gym personnel are changing, said Ken Royon, a gym supervisor at King Field House.

Before, Borrowed Military Manpower Soldiers were responsible for keeping the gyms clean and maintaining and repairing the fitness equipment.

Now gym personnel will be responsible for those duties, he said.

Amanda Kim Stairrett can be contacted at amanda.kim.stairrett@riley.army.mil or 239-3977.

## Bluebird brings song to post

By Carla S. Hurlbert  
Wildlife Administrator

The eastern bluebird is a well-known spring and summer resident of Fort Riley, but until recently bluebird populations were struggling.

In the late nineteenth century the introduction of the European starling and the English house sparrow brought competition for bluebird nesting sites.

In the twentieth century, replacement of wooden fence posts with metal posts, clearing of field borders and fence rows to increase cropland acreage, and a growing human population also contributed to population reductions.

Fortunately, the favored status of the bluebird and its acceptance of artificial nesting structures have led to sustainable population levels.

Placement of thousands of

### On the Wildside: News About Nature



Carla Hurlbert

birds can often be kept right in your backyard.

The color of the bluebird is bright blue on top and on the wings and tail. The breast and throat are a rusty color with the underneath being white.

The female is similar in description but her feathers are a much duller blue than the male.

nest boxes by concerned individuals has contributed significantly to ensuring a future for the eastern bluebird.

With a little effort, these brightly colored bluebirds can be found east of the Rockies, throughout the eastern United States and Canada, and down to central Mexico. Some southern populations are year-round residents, but others migrate to more southerly latitudes for the winter.

...

Bluebirds eat a variety of invertebrates, including caterpillars, butterflies, moths, grasshoppers, katydids

See Bluebirds, Page 15







## Skydiving

continued from page 14

hands down."

Following her jump, Cooley returned to Fort Bragg to eat dinner and sign autographs for the Soldiers in the 3rd Brigade dining room.

### Jumps span White House to MTV

Established in 1959, the Golden Knights have had the honor of serving as Army ambassadors for more than 46 years. As the only Department of Defense and U.S. Army sponsored parachute team, the Golden Knights have earned an international reputation by continuously bringing home gold, silver and bronze medals from competitions.

In addition to impressing American and international audi-

ences at competitions and air shows, the Golden Knights have had the opportunity to connect to the public by performing tandems with a variety of celebrities, including: former President George Bush, professional golfer Tiger Woods, NSYNC's Lance Bass, MTV's Vanessa Minillo and the Today Show's Ann Curry.

"The Golden Knights Tandem team enables the Army to reach out to influencers and give them a taste of the professionalism, leadership and teamwork of the Soldier and the U.S. Army," said Lt. Col. Dave Standridge, commander of the Golden Knights.

Footage of Cooley's Army experience will air during the Miss USA pageant on April 21 at 9 p.m. on NBC.



Descending through 9000 feet, Chelsea Cooley (bottom), the reigning Miss USA, makes her first skydive with the U.S. Army Parachute Team, the "Golden Knights." ANS/Schnell

## Bluebirds

continued from page 14

Eastern bluebirds have returned to the Fort Riley area due to their acceptance of artificial nesting sites. The bird are well known for their bright coloring as well as for their distinctive song. Courtesy photo



and spiders.

They are primarily ground feeders, preferring open land with scattered trees for perching, nesting and feeding.

They are often seen in open woodlands, clearings, farmlands, parks, orchards, gardens, fields, and along roadsides on utility wires and fences.

They have a territorial range that is between two and 25 acres. Bluebird pairs will not usually nest within 300 feet of another bluebird pair.

Bluebirds are usually monogamous and pairs may remain together in successful seasons.

Bluebirds are secondary cavity nesters that use the cavity of abandoned woodpecker nests. They will also build their nest in nesting boxes.

The nest is built primarily by the female while the male brings her nesting material. The construction of the nest may take from two to 12 days and is built from dried grasses and weeds.

Once the nest is completed the female will begin laying her eggs. She will lay one egg per day with an average clutch of three to five eggs.

Incubation begins after the last egg is laid and lasts approximately two weeks. Incubation is done by the female only.

The male will watch the nest when the female leaves to feed herself. The female will continue to brood the young after they hatch and until they are fledged.

The young birds are ready to leave the nest 17 to 20 days after hatching.

Both parents continue to feed

their young for another four weeks. At this time, the female bluebird may start another brood, leaving the male to tend to the young.

...

Raccoons, squirrels, snakes and cats are predators to the bluebird. They eat the eggs as well as the young and adult birds that are inside a nesting box.

Tree swallows, house sparrows and starlings often compete with bluebirds for nesting sites.

The house sparrow and starling can be removed from the nesting box to try and discourage

them from using the nesting site, or a second nesting box can be erected 15 to 25 feet from the first box.

Species such as the tree swallow will not tolerate having another tree swallow pair in close proximity.

Bluebird boxes are available from many sources and various plans are available over the internet to build the boxes.

For more information on this or other wildlife subjects, call the Conservation Division at 239-6211 or visit its Web site at <http://www.riley.army.mil/Recreation/Outdoor/Fishing>.

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2 x 2"  
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2X2 Atk Dk Video Pab TP

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2X2 Screen Mach

MANHATTAN COIN CLUB  
2 x 3"  
Black Only  
2x3 Man Coin Club

CHANGING TIMES BOUTIQUE  
2 x 2"  
Black Only  
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THE MARTIN AGENCY  
4 x 10"  
Black Only  
4x10 A6801SR40B Switch pu 3/17

ALEX'S AFFORDABLE EYEWEAR  
2 x 8"  
Black Only  
2x8 Alex's Eyewear



Post/Stairrett

Private leads ‘pack’

Pvt. Corey Love of Company A, 610th Brigade Support Battalion, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, attempts a lay-up early in the game against Company F March 15 at King Field House. BTSB sponsored a basketball tournament March 14-16. Co. A beat Co. F in the final game, 45 to 34.

Classified Runover  
3 x 21.25"  
Black Only

TIME OUT  
1 x 4"  
Black Only  
1x4 March Madness

KANSAS PRESS  
2 x 2"  
Black Only  
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KANSAS PRESS  
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Black Only  
Kansas government surplus

USADISCOUNTERS  
3 x 10.5"  
Black Only  
B&H/PU 3/17/06





Classified







# Travel & Fun in Kansas

Page 18

America's Warfighting Center

Friday, March 24, 2006

## Leisure time ideas

### At the movies:

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$3.50 for adults and \$1.75 for children 11 and under. Children under the age of 5 are free except during children's matinees or expected sell-outs.

**March 24** – When A Stranger Calls (PG-13) 83 Min.

**March 25** – Final Destination 3 (R) 82 Min.

**March 26** – When A Stranger Calls (PG-13) 83 Min.

For more information, call 784-2226 or 784-2640.

Get away and explore Kansas. Check out details on other events on the Kansas Travel and Tourism Web site, [www.travelKS.com](http://www.travelKS.com).

### El Dorado:

**What:** Butler County Student Art Exhibit.

**When:** 1 to 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday; and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday through March 29

**Where:** 110 N. Main, Courts Museum of Art

**Phone:** (316) 321-1212

**Admission:** Free

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ABILENE  
1 x 2"  
Black Only  
1x2 Heartland Lasix

KANSAS PRESS  
1 x 4"  
Black Only  
Quality Homes

STATE FARM INSURANCE  
1 x 6"  
Black Only  
1x6 Renters

## Quintet expands boundaries

By Kelly Hollowell  
Lied Center

LAWRENCE, Kan. – The Lied Center of Kansas presents Imani Winds, a woodwind quintet whose name is taken from the Swahili word for "faith." The quintet, formed in 1997, is dedicated to expanding the boundaries of the traditional wind quintet and exploring the links between European, African and American music traditions. The group will perform at 7:30 p.m. April 7 and the Lied Center.

These African and Latin American musicians have earned the respect of the classical world for their dynamic playing, innovative programming and outreach programs, which they have shared with communities throughout the country. The Washington Post says, "Classical music has been stubbornly resistant to an increasingly multicultural world. Imani Winds represents nothing less than the future of the once-quiet notion of the wind quintet." Members of Imani Winds include Valerie Coleman, flute; Toyin Spellman, oboe; Mariam Adam, clarinet; Jeff Scott, French horn; and Monica Ellis, bassoon.

Imani Winds recently earned a 2006 Grammy Award nomination



Courtesy photo

The members of the Imani Winds, a woodwind quintet will perform April 7 at the Lied Center in Lawrence, Kan.

in the "Best Classical Crossover Album" category for the group's latest album, The Classical Underground. The quintet is a two-time winner of the CMA/ASCAP Award for "Adventurous Programming," and was selected as the resident-artists of

Chamber Music Society on Lincoln Center. The group has also been honored with the 2003 "Meet the Composer" Commissioning Music/USA Award and won the 2001 Concert Artist Guild Competition.

Imani Winds will hold a resi-

### If you go:

**What:** Imani Winds  
**Where:** Lied Center  
**When:** 7:30 p.m. April 7  
**Admission:** Tickets are available at the Lied Center Ticket Office, (785) 864-ARTS/2787; the University Theatre Ticket Office-Murphy Hall, (785) 864-3982; SUA Office-Kansas Union (785) 864-SHOW; any Ticketmaster outlet (785) 234-4545 and (816) 931-3330; and on-line at TICKETS.COM and TicketMaster.com.

**Cost:** Ticket prices are: public \$28 and \$23; KU, Haskell students/children (child: 0-18 years of age) \$14 and \$11.50; senior citizens (62 & over) \$27 and \$22; KU Faculty/Staff \$24 and \$20.

dency at the University of Kansas on April 6 and 7. Residency activities will include a lecture and demonstration for school children, master classes with KU wind students and a special donors' reception.

## JCAC to host mystery dinner

The Junction City Arts Council will host the story of the ruthless murder of bunny breeder Barney Benson at its next Murder Mystery Dinner at 6 p.m. April 8.

In "Lurking Down the Bunny Trail," Benson's Big Beautiful Bunny Boutique has been the premier breeder of rabbits for springtime holidays for 20 years.

But, all is not well because, yesterday, as Barney was opening for business, a huge letter "B" from the new sign hanging atop the hutch suddenly dislodged and fell on him, striking Barney in the head and leaving the boutique leaderless.

Can you figure out who-dunit?

There will be six suspects ready for questioning following a catered ham dinner.

Reservations for "Lurking Down the Bunny Trail" are required and can be made by calling 762-2581. The cost is \$25 and individuals or teams of six people may sign up.

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